

**REMARKS**

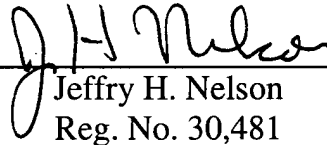
The claim amendments present the claims in better form for consideration on appeal. 37 C.F.R. §1.116(b) (“Amendments presenting rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal may be admitted.”). The amendments improve the readability of claims 1, 17 and 25, and change the dependency of claims 23 and 29. The amendments do not affect the issues on appeal.

It is respectfully requested that the amendment be entered.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Jeffrey H. Nelson  
Reg. No. 30,481

JHN:glf:lcb  
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22201-4714  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100